



#74-102 9R.3300
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

HEINZ et al

Serial Number: 07/965,305

Group Art Unit: 3302

Filed: October 23, 1992

Examiner: L. Dvorak

For: ELECTROMECHANICAL BACK BRACE APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademark
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 16, 1994

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 16, 1993,
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 3 and amend the remaining claims as
follows:

Claim 1. (twice amended) A back brace apparatus
comprising:

a brace body adapted to be wrapped around the trunk of a
patient, said brace body comprising two separate segments;

means at the end of each brace segment for allowing the two
ends to be detachably connected together around the patient's
trunk; and,

means for automatically tightening the brace comprising a
cable operatively connected to said two segments, a motor
operatively connected to apply tension to said cable, [and] means